

Public Administration

Public Administration students at NC State are prepared for a career in public service. They will develop the leadership tools and knowledge they need to serve, manage and lead public or nonprofit organizations or to conduct cutting-edge academic research.

Admission Requirements

The deadline to apply to the MPA program is May 15 (March 1 for International applicants) for Fall admission and November 1 (March 1 for International applicants) for Spring admission. The deadline to apply to the Ph.D. program is March 15 (March 1 for International applicants) for Fall admission. Completed applications received by February 1 will receive consideration for all available university and department scholarships and assistantships.

Master's Degree Requirements

The MPA degree requires the completion of 40 graduate credit hours:

- 24 credit hours of core coursework
- 18 credit hours of elective coursework
- Students lacking the equivalent of one year of full-time public service experience must complete a 3 credit hour internship as part of their elective coursework.

Prerequisites for the program are an undergraduate course in microeconomics and an intermediate statistics (equivalent to ST 311) course. Students who do not have one or both of these prerequisite courses must successfully complete equivalent coursework prior to graduation. The MPA is an Option B Master's degree with a one-person committee and no final oral examination. Details on the degree requirements can be found on the Master of Public Administration (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/public-administration-mr/>) page.

The mission of the MPA program is to develop principled and skilled public service professionals who fulfill leadership roles within governmental and nonprofit organizations. We focus on practical and problem-solving skills and emphasize public service values -- including efficiency, effectiveness, equity and accountability.

To accomplish this mission, the MPA program offers elective coursework in public management, nonprofit management, urban management, financial management, organizational leadership, public policy and justice administration.

Doctoral Degree Requirements

The Ph.D. degree requires the completion of 72 graduate credit hours:

- 60 credit hours of coursework (18 hours of relevant graduate credit from a prior Master's degree may be used; total degree hours must include at least 36 hours at the doctoral level)
- 12 credit hours of dissertation research

Details on the degree requirements can be found on the Ph.D. in Public Administration (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/public-administration-phd/>) page.

Each student will select or develop one or two fields of specialization.

Student Financial Support

A limited number of fellowships and graduate assistantships are offered by the Department of Public Administration. Contact the Department for more information. Other forms of student aid are described in the financial aid section of the Graduate Catalog.

Other Relevant Information

The Department of Public Administration also offers Graduate Certificates in Public Policy and Nonprofit Management, either of which can be taken alone or in conjunction with a graduate degree.

Degrees

- Public Administration (MR) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/public-administration-mr/>)
- Public Administration (PhD) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/public-administration-phd/>)
- Public Administration (Minor) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/public-administration-minor/>)
- Nonprofit Management (Certificate) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/nonprofit-management-certificate/>)
- Policy Analysis (Certificate) (<http://catalog.ncsu.edu/graduate/humanities-social-sciences/public-administration/policy-analysis-certificate/>)

Faculty

Full Professors

Thomas A. Birkland

Richard M. Clerkin

Jerrell D. Coggburn

Dennis M. Daley

George D. Garson

Jennifer Kuzma

Branda L. Nowell

Associate Professors

Rajade M. Berry-James

James R. Brunet

Jason Alix Coupet

Jeffrey Childress Diebold

Christopher Galik

Bruce D. McDonald III

Amanda Janis Stewart

Emeritus Faculty

Michael L. Vasu